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INFO RUCNMR/MERCOSUR COLLECTIVE  
RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NSC WASHDC  
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RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC  
RUEHNA/DEA HQS WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 001053

SIPDIS

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STATE FOR INL/LP JAMES HIDES;DS/DSS/ITA;  
DS/IP/WHA;SOUTHCOMFOR POLAD;NSC FOR SUE CRONIN,POSTS FOR RSO

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/17/2026

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [KCRM](#) [PTER](#) [SNAR](#) [PINR](#) [PA](#)

SUBJECT: PARAGUAY'S ANTI-DRUG UNIT SEIZES MORE WEAPONS

Classified By: PolCouns. James P. Merz. Reason 1.4 (b),(d).

11. (U) SUMMARY. Paraguay's Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) struck again, landing its third major weapons seizure in two months when it raided the Asuncion home and store of a registered arms dealer October 13. SENAD confiscated 195 firearms, C-4 explosives and approximately 8,000 rounds of ammunition. SENAD is investigating the origins of the weapons and the intended foreign customers. END SUMMARY.

12. (C) Working off tips from informants and in close concert with Post's DEA office, SENAD raided the business Comando de Elite owned by Victor Hugo Lobo Corbeta. (NOTE: Comando de Elite is not to be confused with the business Caza y Pesca Comando that SENAD raided last month in Pedro Juan Caballero. END NOTE.) Victor Hugo Lobo gave information leading to the seizure of more weapons in the home of his brother, lawyer Daniel Lobo Corbeta, on the condition SENAD would not arrest Daniel Lobo. All told, SENAD seized 195 firearms including machine guns, machine pistols, revolvers, rifles, and shotguns, C-4 explosives, igniters, fuses, hand grenades, 80 Kevlar bulletproof vests, 28 metal and Kevlar helmets, 10 gas masks with cartridges, and over 8,000 rounds of ammunition. One of rifles seized (M-16A2) seized bore the words, "Property of the U.S. Government" and had the serial number 7333153. The ammunition seized was primarily military type, including belted 7.62mm ammunition with tracers (used in M-16) and 5.56mm (for M-16). Post estimates the value to be close to \$300,000. Victor Lobos was arrested for illegal possession of weapons.

13. (C) Intelligence received by SENAD indicated that Lobos was acquiring and amassing illegal firearms and paramilitary gear to be resold to traffickers and other international customers. According to SENAD Director of Operations Luis Rojas, there is no evidence of any intention to keep the weapons in Paraguay. Rather, Rojas expressed his belief privately and publicly that the weapons were likely being trafficked to criminal groups in Brazil.

14. (C) COMMENT: This arms seizure represents SENAD's third in two months, reinforcing its lead within Paraguay's law enforcement community in the fight against organized crime. We are working on tracing the USG origin rifle. SENAD hopes to obtain further intelligence from Lobo that will shed light on his activities and potentially lead to future seizures. END COMMENT.

